Press Release

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For Immediate Release, Monday, April 10 For more information call Dan Schelske, 667-6340, or Tracy Potter, 663-4758

Fort Abraham Lincoln offers Annual Events Pass

Purchasers of a North Dakota State Parks annual pass have a new option this year - they can upgrade their annual pass to include access to all interpretive activities at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park for the entire season. The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department and the Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation announced the new program Monday.

An annual park pass costs \$25, and allows a permit holder to visit any North Dakota state park as often as they wish. The new Fort Abraham Lincoln "annual interpretive pass" allows a family to experience all events and tours at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park for an additional \$15.

"This is a great deal for locals," said Tracy Potter, executive director of the Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation. "If a family of three wants to attend the melodrama or visit On-a-Slant Village or the Custer House even once, they'll save money buying the optional pass."

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department Director Doug Prchal said, "Fort Abraham Lincoln is a unique site, a state park with a tremendous history and living history interpretive program. The new interpretive pass provides a balance between out-of-state visitors who come primarily for the history, and local residents who are return visitors enjoying the park's camping, picnicking and fishing opportunities. Local residents can now regularly engage in park history."

Potter does not expect the interpretive pass to add much revenue to the foundation's bottom line, but it does recognize the value of regular local visits. "I'll be happy if this program fills our tours and puts more bodies on the benches at the melodrama."

The annual interpretive pass can be purchased at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park south of Mandan and at the ND Parks and Recreation Department office, 1600 East Century, Suite 3, Bismarck.